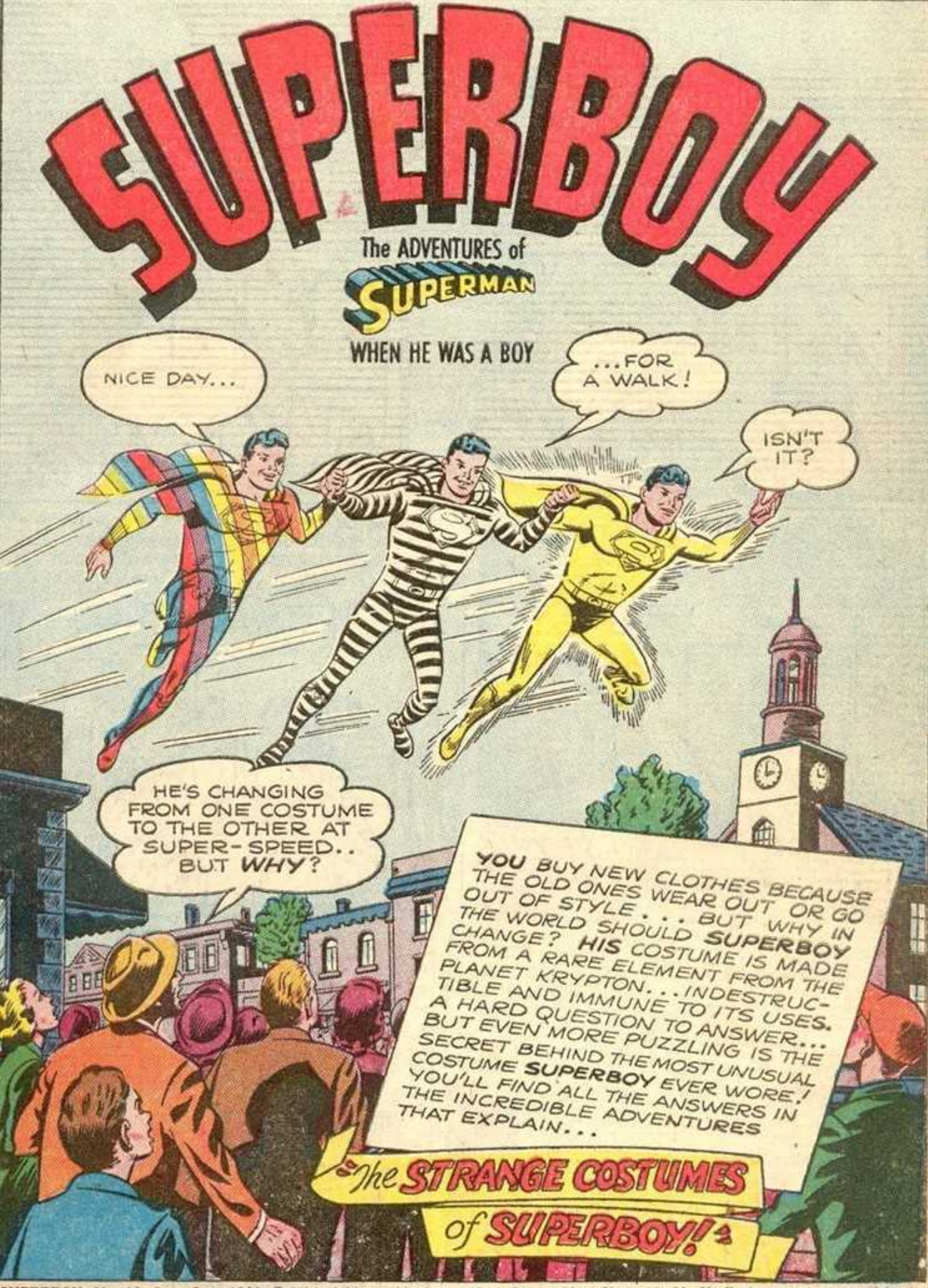
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
NO.16
SEPT. OCT.
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
SUPERBOY
Read
"The STRANGE COSTUMES of SUPERBOY!"
52 BIG PAGES
10c
CAN YOU GUESS WHICH IS THE ODDEST UNIFORM I'VE EVER WORN?

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY


NICE DAY...
...FOR A WALK!
ISN'T IT?
HE'S CHANGING FROM ONE COSTUME TO THE OTHER AT SUPER-SPEED.. BUT WHY?
YOU BUY NEW CLOTHES BECAUSE THE OLD ONES WEAR OUT OR GO OUT OF STYLE... BUT WHY IN THE WORLD SHOULD SUPERBOY CHANGE? HIS COSTUME IS MADE FROM A RARE ELEMENT FROM THE PLANET KRYPTON...INDESTRUCTIBLE AND IMMUNE TO ITS USES. A HARD QUESTION TO ANSWER... BUT EVEN MORE PUZZLING IS THE SECRET BEHIND THE MOST UNUSUAL COSTUME SUPERBOY EVER WORE! YOU'LL FIND ALL THE ANSWERS IN THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES THAT EXPLAIN...
The STRANGE COSTUMES of SUPERBOY!

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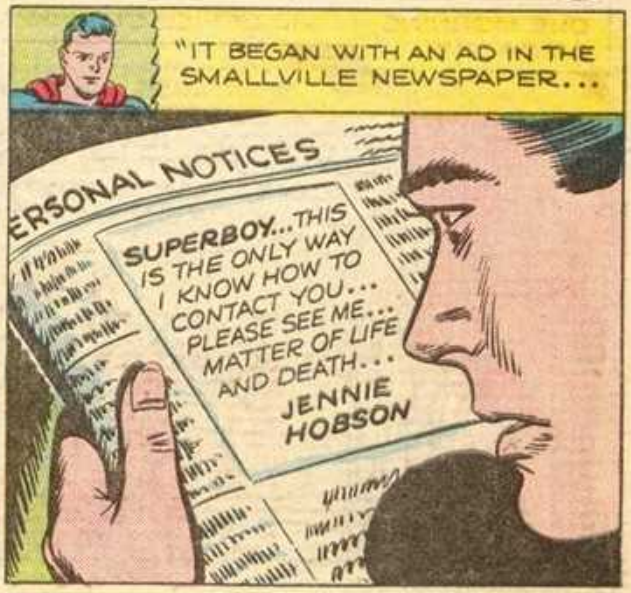
ONE MORNING, IN THE OFFICE OF HIGHLIGHT MAGAZINE...
'MORNING, CHIEF! WHAT ARE YOU DOING... PLANNING A FASHION SHOW?
YOU MIGHT CALL IT THAT, MISS BENTON-- A SUPERBOY FASHION SHOW. NEXT MONTH'S LEAD FEATURE IS A YARN ON THE STRANGE COSTUMES OF SUPERBOY.
BEHIND EACH OF THESE COSTUMES IS THE STORY OF A FASCINATING ADVENTURE... AND IN EACH CASE, SUPERBOY COULD HAVE SUCCEEDED ONLY THROUGH THE USE OF ONE OF THOSE OUTFITS!
MMMM... SOUNDS INTRIGUING! I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. SO HOW ABOUT TELLING ME NOW?
I CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT! SUPERBOY HIMSELF WILL BE HERE IN A FEW MINUTES, AND I WANT YOU TO TAKE SHORTHAND NOTES WHILE--
EEEEK! LOOK!
FOUR DUMMIES... ONLY A SECOND AGO THERE WERE THREE!
TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! H-HOW COULD IT HAVE GOTTEN HERE?
BY SUPER-SPEED. IT GIVES ME A CLOAK OF INVISIBILITY. I COULDN'T RESIST A LITTLE PRACTICAL JOKE... I HOPE YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
SURE... BUT STAY THERE A SECOND. NOW THAT WE CAN COMPARE THEM, I WONDER WHICH IS THE STRANGEST?
THIS ONE. I CAN'T GUESS HOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL.
NO... I THINK THE PRISON COSTUME... OR THE LUMINOUS ONE.
ACTUALLY, YOU'RE BOTH WRONG. THE COSTUME I'M WEARING NOW IS THE MOST UNUSUAL!
2

IT...IT CAN'T BE! THIS PICTURE OF YOUR REGULAR COSTUME...IT'S EXACTLY LIKE THE ONE YOU'RE WEARING.
MAYBE...BUT LET'S GET ON WITH OUR STORIES NOW. I'LL START RIGHT HERE.


"IT BEGAN WITH AN AD IN THE SMALLVILLE NEWSPAPER...
ERSONAL NOTICES
SUPERBOY...THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I KNOW HOW TO CONTACT YOU... PLEASE SEE ME... MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH...
JENNIE HOBSON

"SO I HEADED FOR MISS HOBSON'S HOME..."
MY FATHER IS ANDREW HOBSON, THE EXPLORER. TWO MONTHS AGO, HE REACHED THE ABRANGI, A HOSTILE TRIBE NEAR THE AMAZONIAN DELTA. HE...HE HASN'T BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE... AND I CAN'T FINANCE A SEARCHING EXPEDITION.

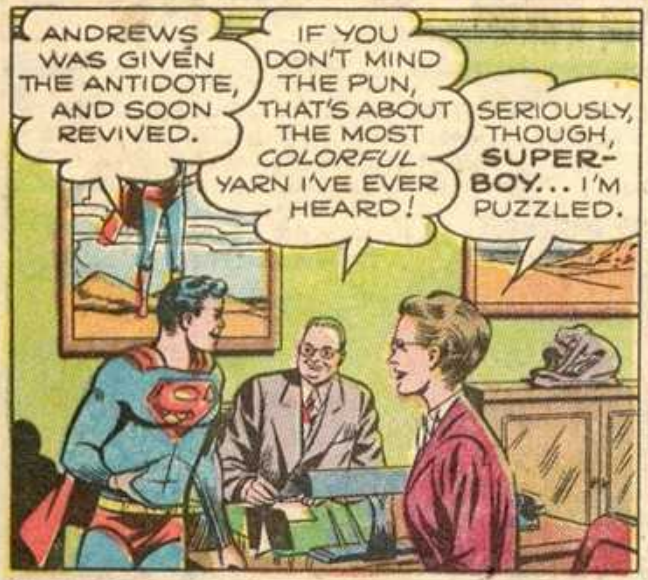
"SOON, I WAS FLYING OVER ABRANGI TERRITORY...
THERE'S ANDREW'S EXPEDITION...AND HE'S UNCONSCIOUS! WHY DON'T THEY TAKE HIM TO A HOSPITAL?

HE VIOLATED ONE OF THE NATIVE TABOOS. THE WITCH DOCTOR DRUGGED HIS FOOD, AND HE'S BEEN THAT WAY FOR WEEKS...IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION!
ISN'T THERE ANY ANTIDOTE?

SURELY...BUT THE WITCH DOCTOR DOESN'T WANT HIM TO BE REVIVED...SAYS ONLY WHEN A RAINBOW APPEARS IN THE EVENING SKY ON A DAY WHEN THERE'S BEEN NO RAIN WILL THEIR CUSTOMS PERMIT IT. AND THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
HMMM...I WONDER IF IT IS?
3

"I WENT TO WORK AT ONCE, OUTLINING MY COSTUME IN MINIATURE ON THE BARK OF A TREE...."
ONE GOOD THUD SHOULD SEPARATE IT FROM THE REST OF THE BARK.
WHAP!
AND A LITTLE SUPER-PRESSURE WILL FLATTEN IT OUT TO SIZE AND MAKE IT FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO WEAR!
SMASHHH!
"THEN, I RAPIDLY DIPPED INTO NATURE'S STORE-HOUSE OF COLORS...."
GREEN FROM RICHLY COLORED FERN...
RED FROM THE CLAY OF RIVER BANKS...
BLUE FROM THE DUST OF GLEAMING TURQUOISE MIXED WITH WATER...
"AND SOON, I WAS READY TO APPLY THE FINISHING TOUCHES..."
HOLD STILL, TABBY! YOUR TWITCHING TAIL WON'T HELP MY ART WORK!
"THEN, MIRRORED IN THE AMAZON, I LOOKED AT MY WORK..."
NOT BAD FOR A QUICK JOB, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF! NOW TO GIVE THAT WITCH DOCTOR THE SURPRISE OF HIS LIFE!
4

"QUICKLY, I STREAKED ACROSS THE EVENING SKY..."
THE GODS HAVE GIVEN US A SIGN! QUICK! FREE WHITE EXPLORER! THE SKIES TELL US TO BE MERCIFUL!


ANDREWS WAS GIVEN THE ANTIDOTE, AND SOON REVIVED.
IF YOU DON'T MIND THE PUN, THAT'S ABOUT THE MOST *COLORFUL* YARN I'VE EVER HEARD!
SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, **SUPER-BOY**... I'M PUZZLED.

YOU WERE JOKING ABOUT THE COSTUME YOU'RE WEARING NOW... WEREN'T YOU?
ACTUALLY... NO! BUT LET'S GET ON WITH *THIS* COSTUME NOW.

"AS I HEARD LATER, JACK MEYERS GOT HIS BIG IDEA WHILE HE WAS IN STATE PEN..."
WHY ARE YOU READING ABOUT *YACHTS*, JACK? YOU'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE WITH ONLY ONE DOLLAR AND THIRTY CENTS.
I KNOW... BUT WITH MY PLAN, I'M GONNA BE ABLE TO BUY ONE OF THOSE BOATS INSIDE OF A MONTH!
Yachting

JUST BECAUSE YOU LOOK A LITTLE LIKE **SUPERBOY**, YOU THINK YOU CAN BE SUPER, TOO?
NOPE---BUT I'M GONNA HAVE **SUPERBOY** *HIMSELF* WORKING FOR ME... ON A MILLION DOLLAR JOB!
Yachting
5

"WHEN HE WAS RELEASED, JACK VISITED A DOCTOR WHO MADE A BUSINESS OF OPERATING ON SHADY CHARACTERS..."
HI, DOC. I WANT YOU SHOULD MAKE ME LOOK LIKE THIS!
WHAT--LIKE SUPERBOY? HMMM... YOU DO RESEMBLE HIM, AND WITH MY IMPROVEMENTS, YOU'D BE A CARBON COPY!
"AND SO SOME TIME LATER IN SMALLVILLE..."
PSSST... SUPERBOY! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO PASS BY. COME IN HERE... QUICK AND QUIET... AND NO FUNNY TRICKS!
WHAT? WHY, YOU ALMOST LOOK LIKE ME!
I'VE HIDDEN MEN NEAR HERE... IN A ROOM THAT'S LINED WITH LEAD SO YOU CAN'T FIND THEM. WHEN I GIVE THEM THE SIGN, THEY'LL BLOW UP HALF OF THIS TOWN WITH A TIME BOMB... UNLESS YOU DO EXACTLY LIKE I SAY!
JUST WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOUR COSTUME! THAT'S ALL!
AND I KNOW WHY! THAT MILLION DOLLAR CASH TRANSFER I'M SLATED TO MAKE FROM THE SMALLVILLE BANK TO THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK! ... HE WANTS TO TAKE MY PLACE! HAVE TO THINK FAST!
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ONE OFF BECAUSE IT WOULD REVEAL MY IDENTITY. BUT I HAVE ANOTHER ONE AT HOME. IF YOU'LL JUST WAIT...
SURE, I'LL WAIT... BUT NO FUNNY STUFF. IF YOU'RE NOT BACK IN THREE SECONDS, I'LL GIVE THE SIGNAL!
"I BROUGHT HIM AN EXACT COPY... BUT IT WAS OF ORDINARY MATERIAL... NOT THAT RARE KRYPTON ELEMENT..."
HA-HA... ME AND YOU! WE LOOK LIKE TWINS! AFTER I GRAB THE MONEY, MY MEN WILL PICK ME UP OUTSIDE OF TOWN... BUT I WANT YOU TO PROMISE NOT TO MOVE OR SEND A MESSAGE FOR ONE HOUR!
I... I PROMISE.

"I DIDN'T HAVE TO BREAK MY PROMISE. THERE WERE OTHER WAYS OF DEALING WITH JACK..."
ROOMS FOR RENT
HMMM...THAT CLEANING AND DYEING TRUCK DOWN THE STREET. HE'LL PASS IT IN A FEW MOMENTS.
ACE DRY CLEANING CO.
"A PUFF OF MY SUPER-BREATH AND I KNOCK OVER A BOTTLE OF BLEACHING AGENT. THEN..."
THIS SPRAY IS SO FINE, HE WON'T EVEN SEE IT!
"THE BLEACH WORKED PERFECTLY!"
NOW TO USE MY X-RAY VISION AND LIGHTLY BURN A SERIES OF BLACK CIRCLES AROUND THAT WHITE COSTUME!
DYEING CO.
"JACK OBVIOUSLY WAS SO INTENT ON HIS SCHEME TO ROB A MILLION DOLLARS THAT HE DIDN'T NOTICE MY CHANGES..."
YOU CAN HAND OVER THE MONEY AND I'LL SEE THAT IT'S DELIVERED--
WAIT A MINUTE! YOU LOOK LIKE SUPERBOY...BUT THAT COSTUME...GUARD! HELP!
AND THAT WAS THAT! JACK WAS RETURNED TO PRISON, AND A LITTLE LATER, I ROUNDED UP HIS PALS.
WHAT A TWIST! THAT MUST'VE BEEN THE FIRST TIME A CROOK WAS APPROPRIATELY DRESSED FOR WORK!
WHAT A FASCINATING STORY...BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING ABOUT THE COSTUME YOU'RE WEARING NOW. WHAT ABOUT THAT?
I MENTIONED IT FOR A REASON, BUT IT MIGHT MEAN THE END OF SUPERBOY IF I TOLD YOU WHY...SO LET'S GO ON WITH THIS LAST UNIFORM!
7

"ONE DAY, AS I WAS PASSING THE SMALLVILLE AIRPORT TRAINING GROUNDS..."
I'M SORRY, REYNOLDS...I JUST CAN'T PASS YOU. TO BE FRANK, YOU WERE SCARED...AND WE CAN'T AFFORD A PILOT WITHOUT NERVE.
I ADMIT...I WAS NERVOUS... BUT I'LL GET OVER IT. I PROMISE YOU, I WILL!
WE COULDN'T AFFORD TO TAKE A CHANCE, AND-- HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
LOOK! I...I'LL PROVE IT-- NOW!
REYNOLDS... GET OUT OF THAT PLANE!...IT HASN'T BEEN TESTED YET!
COURAGE IS A STRANGE THING...AND IF ANYTHING CAN MAKE IT REPLACE COWARDICE, WOUNDED PRIDE CERTAINLY WILL! I'D BETTER STAND BY AND SEE THAT HE DOESN'T GET INTO TROUBLE.
"REYNOLDS PUT ON QUITE AN EXHIBITION OF DARING STUNT FLYING..."
"AND THEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN--"
IT...IT'S OUT OF CONTROL! THE FOOL! I TOLD HIM IT HADN'T BEEN TESTED YET! BUT, SUPERBOY, WITH YOU AROUND, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, IS THERE? YOU'LL BRING DOWN THE PLANE SAFELY!
HMMM...IF IT WEREN'T FOR THOSE STRONG CROSS WINDS, HE COULD GLIDE TO A LANDING.
THE HANGAR DOOR GIVES ME AN IDEA! I CAN USE IT TO NEUTRALIZE THE AIR CURRENTS AND GIVE REYNOLDS A CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE HIS SKILL!

"MY PLAN WORKED, AS I DISPELLED THE DANGEROUS WINDS, AND..."
AAAAH... A PERFECT LANDING!
"I HAD SAVED REYNOLDS, BUT I'D HARDLY HELPED HIM, BECAUSE..."
WELL... DO YOU BELIEVE ME NOW? DIDN'T I HANDLE HER SWEET AND SMOOTH?
I NEVER DOUBTED YOUR ABILITY... IT WAS YOUR COURAGE I WONDERED ABOUT... AND I'M STILL WONDERING! WITH SUPERBOY AROUND, WHO WOULDN'T BE BRAVE?
BUT I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS AROUND! I... AWWW... WHAT'S THE USE! I'LL PROVE I HAVE COURAGE, ALL RIGHT... AND I DON'T WANT YOU, SUPERBOY, TO INTERFERE... NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF DANGER I'M IN. UNDERSTAND?
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, REYNOLDS.
"REYNOLD'S PLAN WAS SIMPLE BUT DARING..."
CROSSING THE ATLANTIC AT NIGHT... FLYING BY INSTRUMENTS ONLY. IN A WAY, I GOT HIM INTO THIS, AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, IT'LL BE MY FAULT.
"HE HAD ALMOST REACHED THE COAST OF IRELAND WHEN SUDDENLY...".
HE'S COMPLETELY OFF HIS COURSE! HIS INSTRUMENTS MUST BE OUT OF CONTROL!
"HOWEVER, WHEN I NEARED HIS PLANE..."
GET AWAY, SUPERBOY! YOU RUINED MY CHANCES ONCE, AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO IT AGAIN! IF YOU TRY TO HELP ME, I'LL JUMP!
I'LL HAVE TO SHOW HIM THE WAY SO THAT HE DOESN'T SUSPECT I'M HELPING.

"I DIVED DEEP BENEATH THE WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC, WHERE..."
THERE'S PURE PHOSPHORUS IN THOSE SHELL FRAGMENTS... CENTURY-OLD DEPOSITS OF LONG DEAD MOLLUSCS.
"I SCOOPED UP SEVERAL LOADS IN MY ARMS, AND BROUGHT THEM TO SHORE. THEN..."
THE HEAT OF THIS IMPACT WILL MOLD THEM INTO A SINGLE MASS!
CRASH!
"THE NEXT STEP WAS TO MOLD THE STILL FLEXIBLE MATERIAL INTO A GLOWING COSTUME..."
I HAVE TO GET REALLY HIGH... FAR ABOVE THE EARTH'S STRATOSPHERE...
"THEN PLUNGING LANDWARD AT ROCKET-SPEED FROM THE SUMMIT OF THE STRATOSPHERE..."
THAT GLOWING LIGHT... MUST BE A METEOR! THE COAST MUST BE TO MY RIGHT... AND ONCE I REACH IT, I CAN LAND, GUIDED BY RADIO SIGNALS!
"AND THAT'S THE STORY BEHIND MY COSTUMES..."
THEY SURE WERE EXCITING! AND NOW... WON'T YOU TELL US WHAT'S STRANGE ABOUT THIS ONE? I'VE BEEN STARING AT IT FOR HOURS... AND JUST CAN'T SEE HOW IT'S DIFFERENT.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I CALLED IT TO YOUR ATTENTION. I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE ONE THING THAT MAKES THIS ONE SO VERY STRANGE WOULDN'T BE NOTICED.
NOW I WONDER WHAT CAN IT BE?
IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING, TOO, READER, IT ALL BEGAN THAT MORNING, WHEN SUPERBOY ACCIDENTALLY MET INQUISITIVE LANA LANG!
HELLO, SUPERBOY. GOING SOMEWHERE?
WHY, YES. I'M DUE AT THE OFFICES OF HIGHLIGHT MAGAZINE AT TWO O'CLOCK.
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! CLARK KENT WAS EXCUSED FROM SCHOOL FOR THE VERY SAME TIME! I'VE SUSPECTED IT BEFORE, BUT NOW I KNOW IT! IF YOU'RE NOT CLARK KENT, I'LL EAT YOUR CLOAK!
THAT CURIOSITY OF HERS IS GETTING IN MY HAIR! I'LL JUST HAVE TO TEACH HER A LESSON!
THAT AFTERNOON, RETURNING FROM HIS VISIT TO THE MAGAZINE, SUPERBOY TAKES A BOLD STEP!
HI, MOM...! NICE TO SEE YOU!
WHY, IT'S SUPERBOY CALLING MRS. KENT "MOM!" THAT PROVES IT! HE IS CLARK!
I HEARD YOU GREET YOUR MOTHER! YOU HAVEN'T THE NERVE TO DENY NOW THAT YOU'RE CLARK KENT!
WHY... ER... NO. WHY SHOULD I DENY IT?
BUT I'M NOT SUPERBOY. HE'S STILL AT THE OFFICE OF HIGHLIGHT MAGAZINE. PHONE HIM AND FIND OUT IF YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE!
I WILL! JUST COME INSIDE AND SEE THAT THE CANDY I'M MAKING FOR THE GIRLS DOESN'T BURN!

HELLO... HIGHLIGHT MAGAZINE. IS SUPERBOY STILL THERE?... WHAT? HE IS?... YES... I WANT TO... HELLO, SUPERBOY?.. OH... ER... SO IT IS YOU. NEVER MIND!
DRRAT!
NOT TOO DIFFICULT... THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION MOMENTARILY SEVERED THE CONNECTION, AND SUPER-VENTRILOQUISM DID THE REST.

WELL THEN, IF YOU'RE NOT SUPERBOY... WHY ARE YOU WEARING HIS COSTUME?
BECAUSE SUPERBOY ASKED ME. HE SAID YOU HAD PROMISED TO EAT HIS CLOAK IF HE WASN'T CLARK KENT... AND HE WANTED ME TO GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO MAKE GOOD THAT PROMISE!

GO AHEAD... TAKE A BITE!
SO HE WANTS TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME, DOES HE? I'LL SHOW HIM! I WILL EAT IT!

SAY... IT... IT'S GOOD!
NATURALLY. SUPERBOY DIDN'T WANT TO BE TOO HARD ON YOU... SO HE SPUN A SPECIAL COSTUME OUT OF CANDY... I'LL TAKE A BITE, TOO, AND... SAY, YOUR CANDY... I LET IT BURN! NOW... WHAT'LL YOU SERVE YOUR FRIENDS?
12

LATER, AS LANA ENTERTAINS HER FRIENDS...
YUMMM DELICIOUS!
WHAT A NOVEL IDEA!
NO, MARIAN... THAT PIECE IS RESERVED FOR LANA. SHE HAS SOME STRANGE IDEAS ABOUT SUPERBOY, AND HE WANTS HER TO EAT HER WORDS!
THE END

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
NEVER BEFORE HAD THERE BEEN A CIRCUS IN SMALLVILLE! FEW OF THE LOCAL YOUNGSTERS THERE HAD EVER SEEN A REAL BIG TOP PERFORMANCE! AND THAT'S WHY SUPERBOY TOOK ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BRINGING A CIRCUS TO HIS HOME TOWN! BUT WHAT A MISTAKE THAT TURNED OUT TO BE! NEVER HAD SUCH A CIRCUS BEEN SEEN ANYWHERE!
BUT SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW THE BOY OF STEEL GETS HIMSELF OUT OF AN EMBARRASSING SITUATION AND SAVES ALL OF SMALLVILLE FROM DISAPPOINTMENT THROUGH HIS TREMENDOUS EFFORT TO MAKE A ROARING SUCCESS OUT OF——
"THE WORST CIRCUS ON EARTH!"

AT THE HOME OF EDDIE AND WILBUR GRIFFIN IN SMALLVILLE...
HERE GOES!
QUIET, WILBUR! IF MOM AND POP WAKE UP AND HEAR US, WE'LL NEVER GET AWAY!
TWO HOURS LATER, AT A FREIGHT SIDING ON THE EDGE OF TOWN...
MADE IT! COME ON--JUMP! THE TRAIN IS PICKING UP SPEED!
HERE I COME! CATCH ME--AND--WATCH OUT! YOU'RE PULLING THE PIN OUT OF THAT COUPLING!
HELP ME--QUICK! IF WE DON'T GET THIS PIN SHOVED BACK--THE CARS WILL SEPARATE!
I--I'M TRYING--BUT--THEY'RE PULLING APART! STAY ON THIS SIDE, EDDIE! L-LET'S NOT GET SEPARATED! WHATEVER HAPPENS--LET'S BE IN IT--T-TOGETHER!!
AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN A CLASSROOM IN SMALLVILLE HIGH WHERE YOUNG CLARK KENT MEETS WITH SEVERAL OF HIS SCHOOL CHUMS...
WHAT CAN BE KEEPING WILBUR AND EDDIE? AS CLASS TREASURER, EDDIE SHOULD'VE BEEN HERE WITH THE MONEY FOR THE PRINCIPAL'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT AN HOUR AGO!
LOOK--MAYBE I'D BETTER DASH OVER TO THEIR HOME AND SEE WHAT'S HOLDING THEM UP!
ONCE OUTSIDE IN THE CORRIDOR, CLARK KENT MAKES A LIGHTNING, UNOBSERVED SWITCH TO MIGHTY SUPERBOY!
WE'VE LOST ENOUGH TIME ALREADY! THAT PRESENT WE WERE PLANNING TO PURCHASE SHOULD BE IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE BEFORE HE ARRIVES! SO--TO SPEED THINGS UP, I'LL DASH OVER AS SUPERBOY AND EXPLAIN THAT I MET CLARK AND OFFERED TO FIND ED AND WILBUR FOR HIM!
2
AN INSTANT LATER, AS THE BOY OF STEEL RACES TOWARD THE HOUSE OF THE MISSING BROTHERS...
HMM...THAT ROPE! LOOKS AS IF THEY SLIPPED OUT OF THEIR BEDROOM WINDOW--WHICH MEANS THEY WERE GOING SOMEWHERE WITHOUT THEIR PARENTS' PERMISSION! BUT WHERE? AND WHY? I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT!

HM--NOTHING BUT SIGNS OF A HASTY DEPARTURE--UNLESS--THIS ONE SCHOOL BOOK LYING OPEN NEAR THE WINDOW SILL, AND NO DUST ON IT--SO IT MUST'VE BEEN OPENED ONLY THIS MORNING--YET THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN STUDYING IF THEY PLANNED TO RUN AWAY! AH--I SEE IT NOW!
HM--SOMETHING WAS PRESSED BETWEEN THESE PAGES AND, ACCORDING TO MY MICROSCOPIC VISION, FAINT INK SMUDGES ON THE PAGE SHOW THAT THEY WERE CIRCUS TICKETS FOR A PERFORMANCE THIS EVENING IN GRANT CITY!
Schools and reading matter handling his books
SUPER CIRCUS

AN INSTANT LATER...
IF THEY LEFT FOR GRANT CITY THIS MORNING, THEY MUST'VE GONE BY TRAIN, SINCE GOING BY AUTO WOULD NEVER GET THEM THERE IN TIME FOR TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE AND SO--I--UH-UH! THOSE UNCOUPLED FREIGHT CARS UP AHEAD! SOMETHING'S WRONG!
WE'RE SUNK, WILBUR! WE'RE GOING TO SMASH INTO THAT LOCOMOTIVE!
JUMP, EDDIE! JUMP! WE'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE IN THE WATER THAN IN A SMASH-UP!
THE KIDS! GREAT SCOTT! THERE'S HARDLY TIME TO SAVE THEM BOTH!

DESPERATELY SEIZING THE RUNAWAY CARS AT THE REAR, **SUPERBOY** YANKS THEM FROM THE PATH OF THE RACING LOCOMOTIVE AS THE FRONT END WHIPS BENEATH WILBUR AN INSTANT BEFORE HE HITS THE RAGING RAPIDS . . .

THEN, A LIGHTNING LEAP AS HE ABANDONS THE CARS, AND THE BOY OF STEEL COMPLETES THE RESCUE...
NOW-- TO PULL EDDIE ALONG WITH ME WHILE I GRAB FOR WILBUR! THERE! THAT DOES IT!
S-SUPERBOY!

PRESENTLY, HAVING RESTORED THE CARS TO THE FREIGHT FROM WHICH THEY WERE UNCOUPLED, SUPERBOY CARRIES HIS FRIGHTENED CHARGES BACK TOWARD HOME...
WE'VE LEARNED OUR LESSON ABOUT RUNNING AWAY, SUPERBOY, AND-- GOSH! WE WERE SO EXCITED ABOUT SEEING THE CIRCUS, WE FORGOT ALL ABOUT BRINGING THAT MONEY TO SCHOOL TODAY!
WELL, WE'LL JUST GET THAT MONEY THERE RIGHT NOW!

AND SO, SHORTLY AFTER, BACK AT THE SCHOOL, WHERE THE RUNAWAYS EXPLAIN THEIR ADVENTURES OF THE MORNING TO THEIR CLASSMATES...
I REALLY CAN'T BLAME YOU FELLOWS. AFTER ALL, THE CIRCUS NEVER STOPS AT SMALLVILLE!
THAT'S TRUE! SUPERBOY-- CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING TO GET A CIRCUS TO COME TO SMALLVILLE? WE'D ALL LIKE TO SEE A CIRCUS!

WELL--MAYBE I CAN TALK ONE OF THE CIRCUSES INTO STOPPING HERE, IF WE ALL AGREE TO HELP IN SELLING ENOUGH TICKETS TO MAKE IT WORTHWHILE!
SURE WE'LL AGREE. AND-- SAY-- BENJY-- WHERE YOU GOING?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR OLD CIRCUS, THAT'S ALL.
4

IMAGINE A KID WHO DOESN'T LIKE CIRCUSES! ANYWAY, THE REST OF US WANT IT, SUPERBOY.
ALL RIGHT, KIDS. I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO. AND ONCE WE GET THINGS ROLLING, I IMAGINE EVEN BENJY WILL FEEL DIFFERENTLY ABOUT IT.

LATE THAT SAME AFTERNOON IN METROPOLIS, AT THE OFFICE OF J. J. RUGG, CIRCUS BOOKING AGENT. . .
WELL, SUPERBOY, THE BIG CIRCUS IS ALL BOOKED UP FOR THE SEASON, BUT I CAN GET YOU JEFF'S TRAVELING CIRCUS. A GOOD LITTLE OUTFIT-- BUT THE KIDS OF SMALLVILLE WILL HAVE TO SHELL OUT CASH ON THE LINE FIRST! $700!
HM-- THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY!

BUT IF YOU GIVE ME A DAY TO RAISE IT FROM AN ADVANCE SALE OF TICKETS IN SMALLVILLE, I CAN PAY IT!
WELL--ALL RIGHT! ONE DAY, SUPERBOY! BUT NO MORE! JEFF'S TRAVELING CIRCUS IS IN BIG DEMAND, YOU KNOW!

OH BOY! DID I PUT ONE OVER! 700 FISH FOR THAT CRUMMY BEAT-UP CIRCUS THAT AIN'T WORKED IN SIX MONTHS! WHEN SUPERBOY SEES THOSE BROKEN-DOWN PERFORMERS HE'LL HAVE A FIT-- BUT WHAT'S THAT TO ME? I'LL HAVE THE CASH IN ADVANCE! HA-HA!

THAT SAME EVENING, ON A HIGH PLAIN BEHIND THE HIGH SCHOOL AND EASILY VISIBLE FROM SMALLVILLE. . .
LOOK-- SUPERBOY'S BUILDING A GIANT WOODEN DISPLAY TO HELP HIM SELL ENOUGH CIRCUS TICKETS TO RAISE THE $700 HE'LL NEED BY TOMORROW!
LOOKS AS IF WE'LL GET OUR CIRCUS ALL RIGHT!
TICKETS ON SALE FOR JEFF'S TRAVELING CIRCUS STORE

WE WOULDN'T IF I HAD ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT!
AW, BEN--YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO BE DIFFERENT, PRETENDING YOU DON'T LIKE THE CIRCUS! BUT THE TROUPE WILL BE STAYING AT YOUR PARENTS' HOTEL, SO YOU'LL SEE PLENTY OF THEM. LOOK-- SUPERBOY'S POURING ON THE OIL NOW AND SETTING THE DISPLAY ON FIRE! THIS'LL BE SOME SIGHT!

SUDDENLY, THE BOY OF STEEL LIFTS THE ENTIRE BLAZING DISPLAY AND HURLS IT SKYWARDS. . .
THERE! THAT FLAMING DISPLAY IS SO SENSATIONAL, THERE WON'T BE A PERSON IN SMALLVILLE WHO WON'T HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE TICKET SALE BY MORNING! BY AFTERNOON, I OUGHT TO HAVE THE MONEY FOR RUGG EASILY!

AND NEXT DAY, FOLLOWING A SENSATIONAL TICKET SALE, **SUPERBOY** DELIVERS THE MONEY TO RUGG. SO, EXACTLY ONE WEEK LATER, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SMALLVILLE'S HISTORY, THERE'S A CIRCUS PARADE ON MAIN STREET-- **BUT WHAT A CIRCUS!**

JIM'S SENSATIONAL TRAVELING CIRCUS

HUH? IS THAT MOTH-EATEN CIRCUS WHAT I SPENT GOOD MONEY TO SEE?

GOSH--NO ELEPHANTS! AND THAT LION--MY KITTEN COULD LICK IT!

WHERE'D THOSE CLOWNS COME FROM--THE OLD MEN'S HOME?

IT MUST BE A GAG. **SUPERBOY** IS AROUND SOMEWHERE! LET'S GO ASK HIM! HEY--BEN!

BENJY'S RUNNING AWAY FROM THE PARADE. WHAT'S EATING HIM?

HEY, BEN--COME BACK! GOSH--CAN YOU BEAT THAT?

LET HIM RUN, IF HE WANTS TO BE LIKE THAT. THERE'S **SUPERBOY** OVER THERE--LET'S GO TALK TO HIM!

GEE, **SUPERBOY**--THIS COULDN'T BE THE CIRCUS YOU GOT FOR US!

MY FATHER SAYS HE'S GOING TO RETURN THE TICKETS AND GET HIS MONEY BACK!

ER--UH--NOW WAIT, EVERYBODY! THIS--THIS IS ONLY A JOKE!

CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE FOLLOWING

YOU JUST WAIT TILL THE PERFORMANCE STARTS TOMORROW! YOU'LL SEE A FIRST-CLASS CIRCUS! I GUARANTEE IT!
THERE--YOU SEE! I KNEW SUPERBOY WOULDN'T WISH THIS BEAT-UP CIRCUS ON US! IT'S A JOKE, AFTER ALL!
KOKO

PRESENTLY, AT THE NEARBY SMALLVILLE HOTEL, A BREATHLESS BEN TALKS TO HIS PARENTS, WHO ARE THE HOTEL'S PROPRIETORS...
NOW STOP WORRYING, SON. JUST BECAUSE THE CIRCUS WILL BE STOPPING HERE IS NO REASON WHY JEFF SHOULD RECOGNIZE ME.
BUT MAYBE HE WILL, AND--OH--OH--HERE HE COMES NOW! I'D SURE LIKE TO FIX HIM, I WOULD!

HOWDY! I JUST WANTED TO BE SURE THE RESERVATIONS FOR THE CIRCUS ARE ALL IN ORDER. AFTER THE PARADE, THE CIRCUS FOLK'LL BE SETTING UP THE TENT AND THINGS FOR TOMORROW'S SHOW, AND THEN THEY'LL BE COMING HERE FOR SOME REST.
HM--SO FAR, HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME...

MEANWHILE, HAVING CAREFULLY THOUGHT OVER THE PROBLEM OF THE DECREPIT CIRCUS, SUPERBOY SPEEDS TOWARD THE MEADOW WHERE THE PERFORMERS ARE ALREADY BEGINNING TO SET UP THE BIG TENT...
NO WONDER THAT BOOKING AGENT INSISTED ON PAYMENT IN ADVANCE, THE SCOUNDREL! BUT SOMEHOW, I'VE GOT TO TURN THIS BROKEN-DOWN OUTFIT INTO A DECENT CIRCUS OR I WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD UP MY HEAD IN SMALLVILLE!

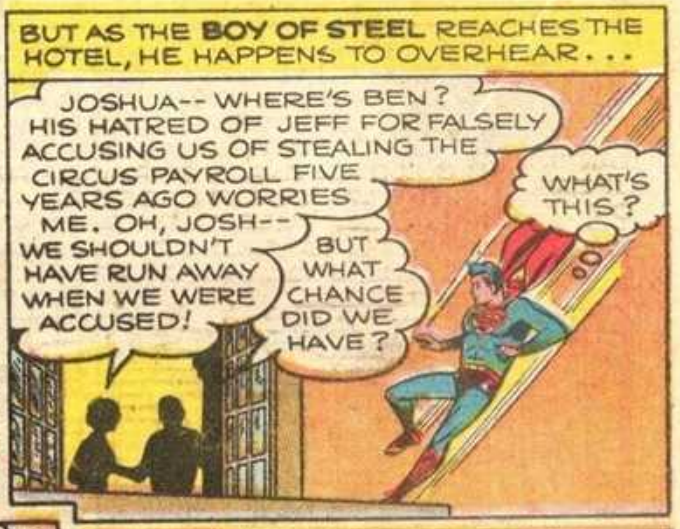
ALL RIGHT, FOLKS. I'LL HELP GET THIS TENT UP TO SAVE TIME! BECAUSE I INTEND TO HELP YOU WHIP YOUR ACTS INTO DECENT SHAPE AND WE'LL NEED EVERY MINUTE BETWEEN NOW AND TOMORROW TO DO IT! NOW--AS I RAISE THE TENT, SINK THOSE STAKES IN!

WITH A MIGHTY PUFF THROUGH THE OPEN FLAP, SUPERBOY SENDS A BLAST OF AIR INSIDE TO INFLATE THE HUGE TENT...
IF HE THINKS HE CAN GET A BUNCH OF HAS-BEENS LIKE OURSELVES INTO SHAPE, HE'S GOT A LOT OF AMBITION EVEN FOR SUPERBOY!
YEAH--AN' THIS'LL PROBABLY BE OUR LAST ENGAGEMENT, SO WHY BOTHER?

BUT SUPERBOY IS NOT DETERRED BY THE TROUPE'S LISTLESS ATTITUDE. ONE BY ONE, HE GOES OVER EACH ACT...
I KNOW THAT'S A CLUMSY HANDSPRING, SUPERBOY, BUT IT'S THE BEST I CAN DO. I AIN'T WORKED FOR QUITE A SPELL, SO I'M RUSTY.
I'LL SAY YOU ARE! NOW TRY THAT AGAIN--AND I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING!
AS THE CLOWN LEAPS CLUMSILY INTO THE AIR AGAIN, SUPERBOY GIVES HIM A SUDDEN FLIP AT THE ANKLES AND...
NOW--THIS IS WHAT I CALL A REAL TUMBLE!
HEY--WHEEEE! SAY--I--I--I'M REALLY GOING!
SAY--THAT FELT LIKE OLD TIMES, SUPERBOY. I COULDN'T DO THAT WELL, BUT YOU GAVE ME THE FEEL OF THINGS AGAIN. IF I KEEP PRACTICING, I OUGHT TO BE IN SOME SHAPE BY TOMORROW!
GOOD--AND NOW YOU! YOU'RE THE SWORD SWALLOWER AREN'T YOU?
YEAH--I'M THE SWORD SWALLOWER. BUT--I CAN'T DO NOTHIN'! I GOT A SORE THROAT!
LISTEN, SUPERBOY--THAT PUNK HAS HAD A SORE THROAT FOR YEARS! I DON'T KNOW WHY JEFF KEEPS HIM ON!
THE LION-TAMER, TOO, HAS AN ALIBI...
OF COURSE, I'VE KEPT IN PRACTICE--BUT WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS MOTH-EATEN LION? COME ON, YOU! WAKE UP!
LET'S SEE IF HE REALLY IS IN PRACTICE! AND IF HE IS--I'LL SEE THAT HE'S GOT A DECENT LION BY TOMORROW!
8
WITH A SUDDEN BURST OF INVISIBLE SUPER-SPEED, THE BOY OF STEEL PROPELS THE LION INTO ABRUPT, CHARGING LIFE...
NOW IF I HAD--HEY? SUPERBOY: WHY--HE'S GONE!

HUH? LEO! WH-WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?
SOMEBODY MUST'VE BEEN SLIPPING YOU VITAMINS--BUT THIS IS GREAT! NOW I'LL REALLY BE ABLE TO PUT ON A SHOW!
IN A MOMENT, HE'LL KNOW I DID IT, BUT JUST THE SAME, I'M CONVINCED HE'LL BE ABLE TO MANAGE A REALLY WILD LION TOMORROW!
THEN--ON TO THE JUGGLERS AND THE ACROBATS--AS SUPERBOY GOES ABOUT POLISHING UP THE VARIOUS ACTS...
WOW--WITH SUPERBOY PUTTING ON HIS OWN KIND OF SHOW, I'M REALLY INSPIRED!
LISTEN, TINA--CAN YOU LEND ME A NEEDLE AND THREAD! I'M GOING TO FIX UP THIS OLD COSTUME OF MINE! I WANT TO BE IN DECENT SHAPE FOR THE TERRIFIC SHOW WE'RE GOING TO PUT ON TOMORROW!
ME TOO! IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO GET LIMBERED UP WHEN YOU'VE GOT SUPERBOY HELPING YOU!
AND FINALLY, WHILE SUPERBOY BUSILY REPAIRS AND PAINTS THE DRAB EQUIPMENT...
WHY--I JUST LENT MY SEWING KIT TO THE ACROBATS. YOU CAN HAVE IT WHEN THEY'RE THROUGH!
AND AT THAT MOMENT, THE ASTONISHED CIRCUS BOSS, JEFF, HIMSELF, COMES ON THE SCENE...
HUH? SAY--WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? IT LOOKS LIKE--LIKE A REAL CIRCUS!
AND EVERYBODY'S WORKING HARD TO MAKE IT A REAL CIRCUS--ALL EXCEPT THAT SWORD SWALLOWER OVER THERE! I SUGGEST YOU GET RID OF HIM!
BUT YOU AIN'T GONNA GET RID OF ME, ARE YOU, JEFF? I'M ON PERMANENT SALARY, AIN'T I, JEFF?
ER--I--UH--YES, OF COURSE. AND THANKS, SUPERBOY, FOR YOUR HELP, BUT THIS IS MY CIRCUS--AND I'LL KEEP ON WHOM I PLEASE!

ODD THAT JEFF SHOULD KEEP THAT SHIFTLESS SWORD SWALLOWER, LOKI, BUT THAT'S HIS BUSINESS. RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOT TO CHECK ON THE HOTEL FOOD THE PERFORMERS WILL BE EATING! EVEN A LITTLE DETAIL LIKE A RICH ENERGY DIET CAN HELP THEM PERFORM TOMORROW!


BUT AS THE BOY OF STEEL REACHES THE HOTEL, HE HAPPENS TO OVERHEAR . . .
JOSHUA-- WHERE'S BEN? HIS HATRED OF JEFF FOR FALSELY ACCUSING US OF STEALING THE CIRCUS PAYROLL FIVE YEARS AGO WORRIES ME. OH, JOSH-- WE SHOULDN'T HAVE RUN AWAY WHEN WE WERE ACCUSED!
BUT WHAT CHANCE DID WE HAVE?
WHAT'S THIS?

NOT ONLY JEFF, BUT THAT ROTTEN SWORD SWALLOWER, LOKI, SAID HE SAW US DO IT! ANYWAY, JEFF HAS FAILED TO RECOGNIZE US AFTER ALL THESE YEARS-- SO AFTER THE CIRCUS LEAVES TOMORROW, IT'LL ALL BE FORGOTTEN.
GREAT SCOTT! I'VE GOT TO GET ALL THE DETAILS ON THIS! I KNOW BEN'S FOLKS WOULDN'T STEAL!

ASTOUNDED BY WHAT HE HAS HEARD, SUPERBOY ONCE AGAIN VISITS THE METROPOLIS OFFICE OF CIRCUS BOOKING AGENT, J. J. RUGG . . .
I'LL FORGET THAT BROKEN-DOWN CIRCUS YOU SENT ME IF, AS AN OLD-TIMER IN THIS BUSINESS, YOU GIVE ME THE INFORMATION I WANT!
SURE--WHAT'S IT TO ME? IT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO THE GREAT ZAMBEZIS STOLE THE CIRCUS PAY-ROLL AND THEN VANISHED!

JEFF SWORE HE'D OVERHEARD THEM PLAN THE THEFT. THEN, LOKI, THE SWORD SWALLOWER, CLINCHED IT BY CLAIMING HE SAW THEM DO IT AS HE LOOKED THROUGH THE WINDOW OF THIS OLD RAILROAD CAR HE USED FOR A DRESSING ROOM IN THOSE DAYS.
JEFF'S TRAVELING CIRCUS
10

THE WHOLE TROUPE DIDN'T GET PAID THAT WEEK, BUT IT WASN'T JEFF'S FAULT. THEY JUST HAD TO ACCEPT THE LOSS OF A MONTH'S PAY BECAUSE THE ZAMBEZIS HAD THE MONEY AND THEY'D MANAGED TO SKIP AFTER THEY'D BEEN ACCUSED.
ANY OTHER PHOTOS OF THIS CAR, RUGG?

WHAT DOES THE RAILROAD CAR MEAN TO **SUPER-BOY**? LET'S SEE AS EARLY NEXT MORNING, IN A CLEARING SOME MILES FROM SMALL-VILLE...

I SEARCHED ALL NIGHT TRYING TO LOCATE THAT OLD RAILROAD CAR ONLY TO DISCOVER IT HAD BEEN DESTROYED IN A FIRE, SO THE ONLY SOLUTION IS TO BUILD AN EXACT DUPLICATE FROM THE VARIOUS PHOTOS OF IT THAT RUGG FURNISHED ME.

HAVE TO MAKE SURE I GET ALL THE DETAILS RIGHT, WHICH MEANS I MIGHT MISS THE OPENING OF THE CIRCUS. BUT CLEARING THE NAME OF BEN'S FOLKS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN SEEING HOW MY EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE CIRCUS HAVE WORKED OUT.

AND SO IT HAPPENS THAT **SUPERBOY**, APPROACHING THE BIG TENT LONG AFTER THE PERFORMANCE HAS STARTED...

WHAT? THE ZAMBEZIS! BEN'S PARENTS! THEY'RE ACTUALLY APPEARING WITH THE CIRCUS! BUT THAT MEANS-- **EXPOSURE**! WHAT MADE THEM DO IT WHEN IT MEANS FACING JAIL AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?

SPECIAL ADDED ATTRACTION

THE FLYING ZAMBEZIS

WORLD'S GREATEST TRAPEZE ARTISTS

ENTERING THE BIG TENT, THE **BOY OF STEEL** NOTES THE CHEERS OF THE CROWD AS THE SENSATIONAL AERIALISTS GO THROUGH THEIR ACT...

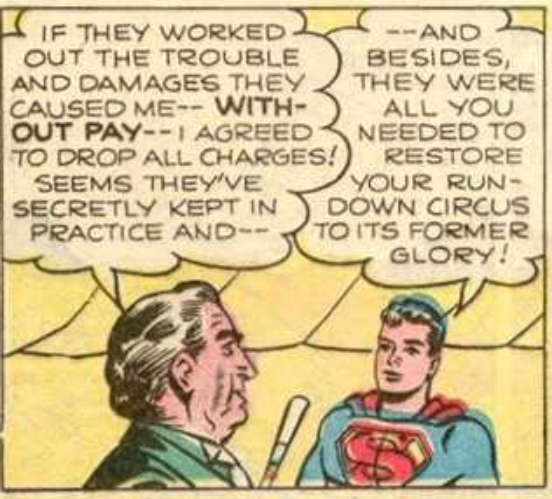
WELL--I MUST ADMIT THAT THEIR APPEARANCE, ADDED TO MY OWN EFFORTS, HAS MADE THIS CIRCUS A ROARING SUCCESS!

BUT AGAIN-- WHY'D THEY EXPOSE THEMSELVES? THEY **KNOW** THEY'RE INNOCENT, AND IN ANOTHER DAY THERE'D HAVE BEEN NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. WELL--I'LL CERTAINLY FIND OUT AS SOON AS THE PERFORMANCE IS OVER.

AND SO, FOLLOWING THE END OF THE THRILLING SHOW, A GROUP GATHERS IN THE SMALL TENT SERVING JEFF AS HIS OFFICE...

SO YOU SEE, **SUPERBOY**-- THIS BRAT BURST IN HERE AND ATTACKED ME WITH A CLUB! I'D HAVE HAD HIM SENT TO A REFORM SCHOOL, BUT WHEN HIS PARENTS SHOWED UP AND REVEALED THEMSELVES, I HAD AN IDEA!

EASY, BEN. IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...


IF THEY WORKED OUT THE TROUBLE AND DAMAGES THEY CAUSED ME-- WITHOUT PAY--I AGREED TO DROP ALL CHARGES! SEEMS THEY'VE SECRETLY KEPT IN PRACTICE AND--
--AND BESIDES, THEY WERE ALL YOU NEEDED TO RESTORE YOUR RUN-DOWN CIRCUS TO ITS FORMER GLORY!

BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO WORK FOR YOU, JEFF, BECAUSE THEY'RE INNOCENT! YOU YOURSELF APPROPRIATED THAT PAYROLL AND FRAMED THEM WITH THE HELP OF YOUR SWORD SWALLOWER! DO YOU RECOGNIZE THAT OLD RAILROAD CAR? WELL-- WATCH!
IT'S A LIE!
TRAVELING CIRCUS

STREAKING SWIFTLY INTO THE STRATOSPHERE, THE BOY OF STEEL USES HIS MIGHTY LUNGS TO SEND A LONG BLAST OF THE COLD UPPER AIR DOWN TOWARD THE WAITING GROUP...
THE DAY THE SWORD SWALLOWER CLAIMED HE SAW THE ZAMBEZIS STEAL INTO THE PAYROLL TENT FROM THE WINDOW OF THIS RAILROAD CAR WAS A COLD ONE--SO NOW TO SIMULATE THOSE COLD CONDITIONS JUST ENOUGH TO PROVE MY POINT!

DESCENDING RAPIDLY, SUPERBOY PRESENTS HIS FINAL PROOF...
THERE! ON THE COLD DAY WHEN LOKI SAID HE WITNESSED THE THEFT, THE HEAT INSIDE THE CAR AND THE COLD OUTSIDE FROSTED UP THE WINDOWS JUST AS YOU SEE NOW--SO LOKI COULDN'T HAVE SEEN THROUGH THEM! HE LIED!
IT WAS JEFF--HE TOLD ME TO LIE, SUPERBOY!

YOU RAT--WHAT'RE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT? YOU'VE BEEN DRAWING A SALARY WITHOUT WORKING FOR 5 YEARS, AND NOW--
--AND NOW, IT'S JAIL FOR BOTH OF YOU, WHILE THE ZAMBEZIS GET BACK THEIR GOOD NAME!
12

NEXT DAY, AS CLARK KENT JOINS A GROUP OF HIS SCHOOLMATES GATHERED IN A CORRIDOR IN SMALLVILLE HIGH...
TELL US SOME MORE INSIDE STORIES ABOUT THE CIRCUS, BEN!
WELL, THE KIDS NOT ONLY GOT THEIR CIRCUS, BUT IN A SENSE, THROUGH BEN, THEY CAN ACTUALLY KEEP A PART OF THE CIRCUS WITH THEM ALL THROUGH SCHOOL...
the End

PRIVATE PETE
HENRY BOLTHOFF
GOLLY, MY FIRST DAY IN THE ARMY. EVERYTHING IS SO STRANGE!
I WONDER WHERE WE SLEEP AT NIGHT?
PRIVATE - YOU WALKED RIGHT BY ME WITHOUT SALUTING! DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU BROKE REGULATIONS?
GUARD! OH GUARD!
GEE, I'VE GOT A SWELL PRIVATE ROOM ALL TO MYSELF. AND I THOUGHT WE'D BE BUNKING IN TENTS!
END

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LOOK FOR THE NAME ON THE BRAKE ARM!

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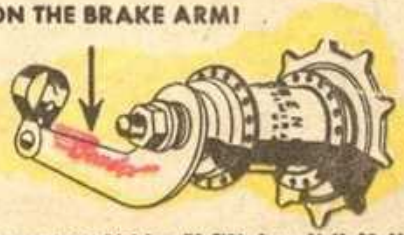

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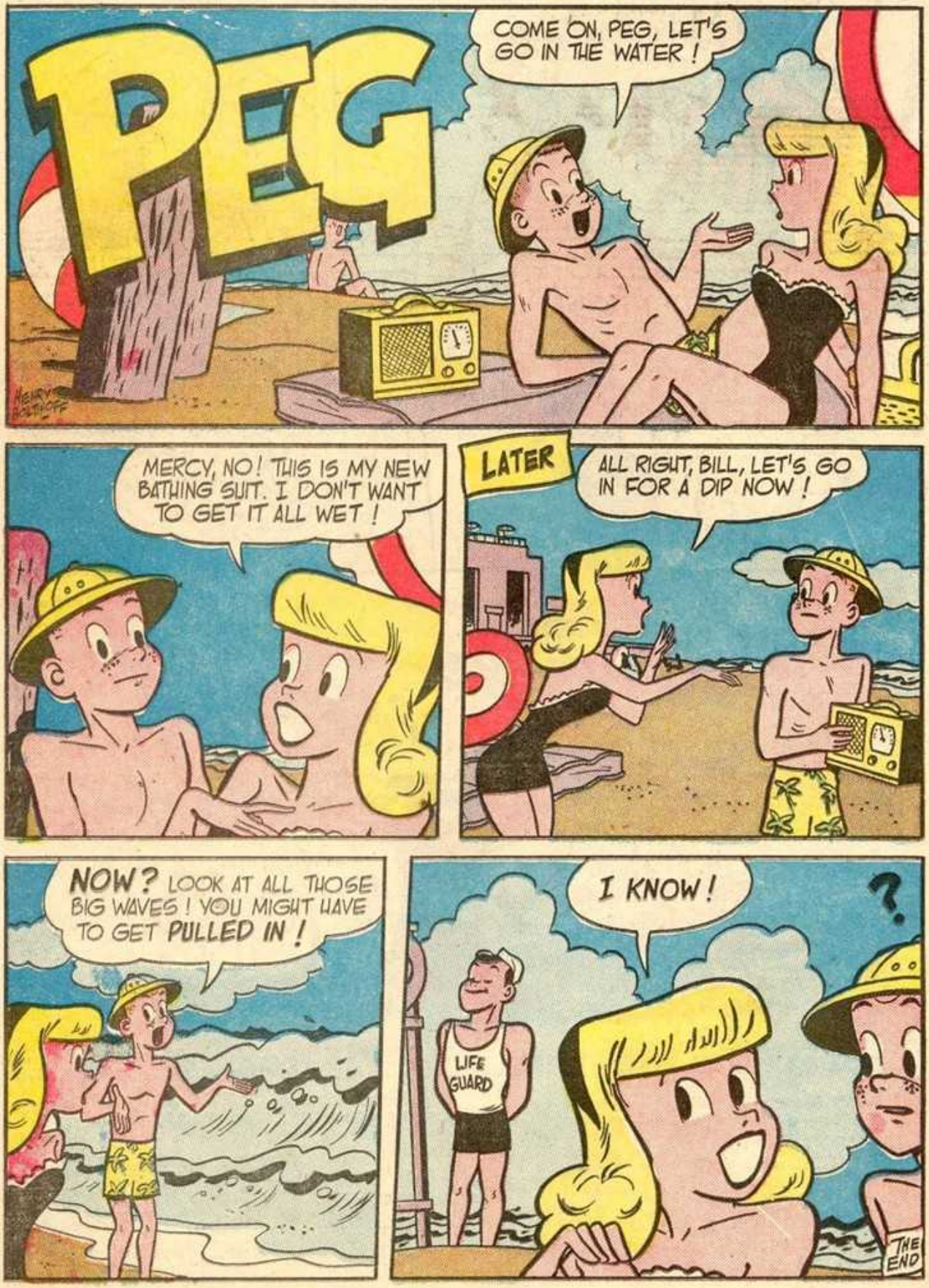

PEG
COME ON, PEG, LET'S GO IN THE WATER !
HENRY SCARFF
MERCY, NO ! THIS IS MY NEW BATHING SUIT. I DON'T WANT TO GET IT ALL WET !
LATER
ALL RIGHT, BILL, LET'S GO IN FOR A DIP NOW !
NOW ? LOOK AT ALL THOSE BIG WAVES ! YOU MIGHT HAVE TO GET PULLED IN !
I KNOW !
LIFE GUARD
THE END

A SAPPY STORY

FROM Maine to California—North, South, East and West, folks eat pancakes, waffles, French toast, and plain biscuits drenched with maple syrup.

Did you ever wonder where that maple syrup comes from? Most people in our northern states know about the maple syrup business. In northern New York State, Vermont, New Hampshire and in many states along the Canadian border, the syrup and sugar industry is very old indeed.

Maple syrup and maple sugar come from the sap of the maple tree, not the maple we see in gardens and lawns all over the country, but the Rock Maple or Sugar Maple tree. There are many kinds of maple trees: the Silver Maple, the Norway Maple and the Swamp Maple, all of which give sap fluently, but the sap of the Sugar Maple is the one used for syrup because its flavor is more distinct and appealing for human consumption.

Every year, when the first Spring thaw comes, the sap starts to run in the trees. Then, the farmer cleans his sap buckets, the spigots, and the covers for the pails. If it has been a very mild Winter, the sap will not be very plentiful. However, a very cold Winter and a very long Winter are the best weather conditions for a good run of sap. When the thaws come in March and April and the sap is running, the trees are tapped.

This tapping process is really quite simple. A small pipe about a quarter of an inch in diameter is pounded into the tree about an inch or an inch and a half, or sometimes even two inches through the bark of the tree. If more than one pail is hung on the same tree, these tappings are staggered so that good flows can find their way into each bucket without depriving either one.

On the outside end of the spigot or pipe, the end is bent down a little and comes to a point. The sap pail is hung over the spigot, next to the tree, so that the sap can run down the little pipe and drop into the pail. There are coned metal covers which fit over the top of the pail and the spigot. This cover keeps rain and dirt and snow out of the sap. If any rain trickles into the pail and mixes with the sap, the whole bucket has to be thrown away, for the sap has to be absolutely pure.

The sap drips out from the tree very slowly, more like water leaking, drop

by drop, from a faucet. When a bucket is full, the farmer and his helpers gather all the buckets and pour the contents into a large container and haul the sap to the sugar house.

The sugar house is a small building, usually far away from the other farm buildings because the danger of fire is so great. Frequently, a farmer's sugar trees are several miles away from the farm proper and the sugar house too is snuggled away in the woods, much like a little log hunting cabin. In the sugar house is a great big chimney and open hearth with a large vat over it. Always there is a wood shed with piles of logs to keep the fire going all the time.

The farmer used to haul his sap to the sugar house by horse and sleigh. Nowadays, he does it by tractor or truck. The sap is poured from the trucks into the large "sugaring off" vat in the sugar house. Then, the sap is boiled and evaporation takes place.

In order to obtain syrup, the sap is boiled until it gets to a certain consistency, the actual syrupy consistency we all recognize. Then the syrup is poured off into pint, quart, half-gallon and gallon cans.

Each farmer usually has his own labels which are pasted on the cans. Sometimes, instead of sugaring off his own sap, he sells the unprocessed sap to a big maple syrup company which has a large sugar house where it is boiled and canned under a company name.

Maple sugar, which has long been a delightful candy, is pure, solidified maple sap. The process is the same as for obtaining maple syrup except that it is carried a step further. The syrup is boiled until, by evaporation, nothing but hard sugar is left in the bottom of the vat. This is ladled off and formed into molds.

Maple sugar is patterned much like cookies—into bars, maple leaf shapes and all sorts of attractive forms. Because maple sugar is so sweet, usually very small pieces are made. The candy box is labeled either by the farmer himself or by a large company, and is sent all over the world.

This process for making maple syrup and maple sugar which has been going on for years today is an organized industry. But it is lots of fun, too. When the sap first starts to run, a "sugaring off party" is held. Everyone gets bundled up in warm Winter clothes and meets at the farm house. Then, with all equipment piled on the sleighs, they go off into the woods to the maple tree orchard.

Each person is assigned a certain section, where he gathers the buckets and pours their contents into the vat on his sleigh. Then, he replaces his buckets. When all the vats are filled, the people clamber back on the sleigh with the vat and off they go to the sugar house. Here, they watch and wait until the sap is poured into the big tub, and as the sap begins to turn into syrup, pancakes are made right on the spot. Everyone eventually eats a big meal of pancakes and fresh maple syrup.

So, from now on, whenever you sit down to your table and see a platter of hot, fluffy pancakes covered with butter, and delicious pure maple syrup, think how that syrup came to be on your table. Maybe someday you can go on a sugaring off party, too.

—B. Fairbanks

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
WHO HAS THE HARDER JOB?... SUPERBOY ON EARTH -- OR MARSBOY, THAT LAD FROM OUR NEIGHBORING PLANET, WHOSE POWERS ARE EQUAL TO THOSE OF THE BOY OF STEEL? THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO SETTLE THIS QUESTION... AND WHEN THE TWO LADS SWITCHED IDENTITIES FOR A FEW HOURS, EACH LEARNED THE ANSWER THROUGH THE MOST STARTLING EXPERIENCES OF HIS LIFE! AND YOU, TOO, ARE ABOUT TO LEARN THE ANSWER, AS YOU READ THIS INCREDIBLE TALE OF...
"SUPERBOY ON MARS!"

ONE MORNING, IN SMALLVILLE, AS CLARK KENT WATCHES A GROUP OF HAPPY KIDS PREPARING TO EMBARK ON A SUMMER VACATION...
THANKS TO SUPERBOY, WE'RE READY TO TAKE THIS FIRST GROUP OF YOUNGSTERS TO KIDTOWN CAMPS! I WISH HE'D SHOW UP THOUGH... I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR HIM!
HMM... WONDER WHAT HE'S GOT UP HIS SLEEVE? BETTER SWITCH TO SUPERBOY AND FIND OUT!
KIDTOWN SUMMER C
KIDTOWN CAMP

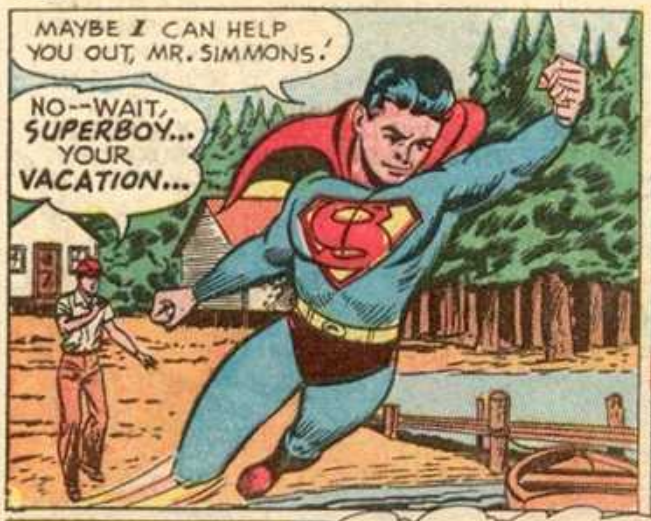
A QUICK CHANGE OF COSTUME BEHIND A BUILDING— AND MILD-MANNERED CLARK RETURNS AS SUPERBOY, THE BOY OF STEEL!
AH... YOU'RE JUST IN TIME, SUPERBOY! GUESS WHAT... YOU'RE COMING WITH US TODAY— ON THE FIRST VACATION OF YOUR LIFE! YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO EXCEPT SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SCENERY!
WELL! THIS IS A PLEASANT SURPRISE!
KIDTOWN CAMP

BUT EVEN THE BEST OF PLANS CAN SOMETIMES GO ASTRAY... AND AWHILE LATER, ALONG A COUNTRY ROAD...
SEE? THE FUEL PUMP BROKE DOWN, MR. SIMMONS ...IT'LL TAKE HOURS TO FIX!
THAT'S TOO BAD... THE KIDS WERE EAGER FOR A SWIM TODAY!
KIDTOWN SUMMER CAMP
THEN WHY DISAPPOINT THEM? I'LL START MY VACATION AT CAMP!

WITH NO EFFORT AT ALL, SUPERBOY LIFTS THE BUS, AND...
OH, BOY! THIS IS THE SMOOTHEST RIDE I'VE EVER TAKEN!
TALK ABOUT JET-POWER... SUPER-POWER HAS IT BEAT BY A MILE!
KIDTOWN SUMMER CAMP

PRESENTLY, AT CAMP...
COME ON, FELLOWS... LAST ONE IN IS A DRIP!
NOW REMEMBER... YOU'RE OUR GUEST— AND WE WAIT ON YOU! JUST SIT IN THE SUN AND RELAX!

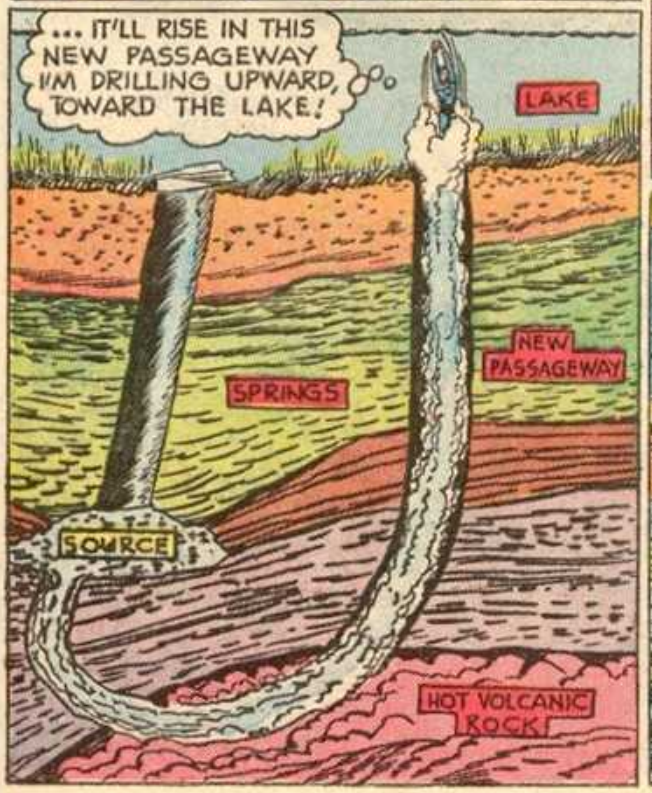
BUT AS THE BOYS STEP INTO THE WATER...
BRRR! THIS LAKE IS AN ICEBOX!
OH, OH... I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! THERE HASN'T BEEN ENOUGH SUMMER WEATHER TO WARM THE WATER... THEY'LL HAVE TO DO WITHOUT SWIMMING FOR AT LEAST A WEEK!
EEYOW! I'M FROZEN SOLID!
2


MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU OUT, MR. SIMMONS!
NO--WAIT, SUPERBOY... YOUR VACATION...

I COULD HEAT THE WATER WITH MY X-RAY VISION... BUT THAT WOULD BE ONLY TEMPORARY-- AND I WANT THE KIDS TO ENJOY THE LAKE AFTER I'M GONE, TOO! BETTER DIVE TO THE BOTTOM.
WHEW! THERE'S NO WAY OF KEEPING HIM IDLE!

DIVE TO THE BOTTOM? HOW CAN THE BOY OF STEEL WARM THE WATERS THAT WAY?
HMM... JUST AS I THOUGHT! THE LAKE IS FED BY COLD SPRINGS, GUSHING UP FROM HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW! I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE ONE OF THESE COLD SPRINGS A HOT WATER SPRING!

LIKE A HUMAN DRILL, HE BURROWS DEEP BENEATH THE MUDDY BOTTOM...
IF I DRILL A HOLE FROM THE SOURCE OF THAT SPRING TO THIS HOT VOLCANIC ROCK BELOW, THE WATER WILL FOLLOW MY PATH DOWN, AND AFTER IT'S HEATED BY THE LAVA...


... IT'LL RISE IN THIS NEW PASSAGEWAY I'M DRILLING UPWARD, TOWARD THE LAKE!
LAKE
NEW PASSAGEWAY
SPRINGS
SOURCE
HOT VOLCANIC ROCK

MOMENTS LATER, BACK ON THE SURFACE...
JUST LIKE TURNING ON A HOT WATER TAP! THAT'S HOW NATURE FORMED THE FAMOUS HOT WATER GEYSERS IN YELLOWSTONE PARK! COME ON IN, BOYS... THE WATER'S FINE!
3

OH, BOY! JUST RIGHT.
NOW, NOW, SUPERBOY... SIT DOWN, RELAX... YOU'RE NOT EVEN TO LIFT A FINGER FOR THE NEXT HOUR.
LEAVE IT TO SUPERBOY... HE CAN DO ANYTHING!
BUT CAN SUPERBOY TAKE A VACATION? WOULD YOU IF YOU HAD ENDLESS POWER TO MAKE OTHERS HAPPY?
WHY HAVEN'T THOSE YOUNGSTERS GONE IN THE WATER?
THEY CAN'T SWIM... AND THERE'S NO SHALLOW, SANDY SPOT WHERE THEY CAN LEARN! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT... WE'LL TEND TO IT IN A DAY OR SO!
SAND, EH? A FEW OF THOSE BOULDERS SHOULD SOLVE THAT PROBLEM.
WON'T HE EVER LET UP? HE JUST KEEPS DRIVING HIMSELF... WITHOUT A STOP.
KRASSSH!
CRUSHED ROCK EQUALS SAND-- SO I'LL SOON HAVE ENOUGH FOR A FIRST GRADE BEACH, SLOPING GRADUALLY INTO DEEPER WATER!
AFTERWARDS...
HE HAS TO RETURN TO SMALLVILLE SOON... SO LET'S ALL GO ON A HIKE AND LET HIM RELAX FOR THE FEW MINUTES HE HAS LEFT TO STAY HERE.
I'M REALLY ENJOYING THIS.' EVEN IF IT IS FOR LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES, IT'S THE FIRST VACATION I'VE HAD IN MY LIFE.
AND AS SUPERBOY HALF-DOZES IN THE SUN...
PRETTY SOFT, EH, SUPERBOY!
HUH? THAT VOICE ...I DON'T SEE ANYONE! AM I DREAMING?

HERE I AM! DON'T YOU SEE ME?
STILL NOTHING! BETTER USE MY TELESCOPIC VISION!
THROUGH LIMITLESS SPACE, SUPERBOY'S AMAZING EYESIGHT RADIATES IN ALL DIRECTIONS -- TILL FINALLY...
WHY--WHY, IT'S MARSBOY!
MARSBOY! REMEMBER HIM?--SUTRI, THE LAD FROM THE PLANET MARS, WHO, BY A QUIRK OF NATURE, ACQUIRED POWERS EQUAL TO THOSE OF SUPERBOY...
THIS STRANGE ASTEROID FROM OUTER SPACE ... ITS RADIATIONS GAVE ME SUPER-STRENGTH, WHICH I WILL USE TO HELP MY PEOPLE ON MARS!
AND REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WHEN MARSBOY TRIED TO HELP HIS PEOPLE BY DESTROYING SUPERBOY AND STEALING THE FAMED PYRAMID?
WAIT, MARSBOY! THE FORMULA CONTAINED IN THIS PYRAMID IS ENCLOSED IN A COPPER TUBE -- AND THOUGH YOUR X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE COPPER, MINE CAN! YOU DON'T HAVE TO STEAL THE PYRAMID TO GET THE FORMULA... I'LL READ IT TO YOU AND WE CAN WORK TOGETHER!
GOOD! WE'RE TOO MUCH ALIKE TO REMAIN ENEMIES, SUPERBOY!
THUS BEGAN AN INTERPLANETARY FRIENDSHIP WHICH HAS LASTED TILL THE PRESENT DAY...
I'VE NEVER HAD A VACATION! LIFE MUST BE EASY IN A SIMPLE CIVILIZATION LIKE YOURS!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS OF MARS SHOULD MAKE YOUR TASK A SNAP!
HMPH! JUST WORDS! YOU WOULDN'T DARE CHANGE ROLLS WITH ME!
OH, NO? IF YOU'RE WILLING, I AM! WE'LL MEET IN SPACE AND MAKE THE SWITCH!

SOON, IN MID SPACE, ONE OF HISTORY'S STRANGEST PACTS IS SEALED...
WE'LL EXCHANGE OUR COSTUMES AND OUR SECRET IDENTITIES... THEN WE'LL FIND OUT WHOSE JOB IS MORE DIFFICULT.'
SINCE WE'RE EVENLY MATCHED IN STRENGTH AND WITS, IT SHOULD BE EASY TO DETERMINE.'

A LITTLE LATER, ON MARS SUPERBOY ROAMS THE REGIONS...
THERE'S SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE CUSTOMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS HERE... I'LL HAVE TO WATCH MY STEP.'

JUST THEN...
I MUST MAKE SURE NO ONE ON MARS SUFFERS BECAUSE OF... WAIT.' THOSE COMETS FROM OUTER SPACE—PLUNGING RIGHT FOR THAT FACTORY.' I'LL HAVE TO SMASH THEM.'

INSTANTLY, ABOVE THE MARTIAN FACTORY...
THERE! BLASTED TO POWDER WITH A GOOD LEFT HOOK! NOW TO GET THE OTHERS AS THEY COME DOWN.'

BUT AS THE BOY OF TOMORROW CONTINUES TO SMASH ONE MISSILE AFTER ANOTHER, A STRANGER RUSHES UP...
MARSBOY.' WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR HEAD?
B-BUT THOSE COMETS... THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE FACTORY.'
6

NATURALLY! YOU KNOW THAT WE ATTRACT THEM FROM SPACE TO OUR ENERGY CONVERTERS, IN ORDER TO USE THEM AS SOURCES OF HEAT AND POWER!
OH... ER... YES... OF COURSE--I ...ER... FORGOT FOR THE MOMENT!
HMM... VERY STRANGE BEHAVIOR! IS MARSBOY SLIPPING?
MEANWHILE, ON EARTH...
SEE SINGBY'S CIRCUS
HA, HA! CLEVEREST PIECE OF ADVERTISING I'VE SEEN IN YEARS!
SMALLVILLE TRUST CO.
SUDDENLY...
KRAK!
SEE SINGBY'S CIRCUS
WHY, YES... SO IT IS! TOO BAD... SUCH AN INGENIOUS IDEA, TOO!
SUPERBOY--LOOK--THE BALLOON IS DEFLATED--CRASHING TO THE GROUND!
BUT AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO ANYTHING? ALL THE PEOPLE INSIDE IT WILL BE KILLED!
OH, GOSH--I FORGOT... THEY HAVEN'T DEVELOPED ANTI-GRAVITY BELTS ON THIS PLANET YET! AND I CAN'T POSSIBLY REACH THAT DIRIGIBLE IN TIME!
POOOFFF
ONLY ONE THING TO DO... KEEP IT SUSPENDED WITH MY SUPER-BREATH, UNTIL I CAN REACH IT!

AND AS MARSBOY STREAKS TO THE RESCUE...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH SUPERBOY? HE'S NEVER ACTED LIKE THIS BEFORE!
LOOKS AS IF THINGS AREN'T GOING WELL FOR EITHER OF THE TWO SUPER-LADS, SO FAR... AND THEY'RE DUE TO GET WORSE! FOR AT THAT MOMENT, BACK ON MARS...
QUICK, MARSBOY--SOME SPACE PIRATES JUST ESCAPED FROM PRISON! THEY'RE HIDING SOMEWHERE IN THE LABYRINTHS OF THAT MOUNTAIN. NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE, OR THE TRAIL WILL GET COLD!
DON'T WORRY... I'LL FIND THEM QUICKLY ENOUGH!
SWIFT SECONDS LATER...
WHEW! THAT MOUNTAIN IS THICK WITH LEAD DEPOSITS ...I CAN'T USE MY X-RAY VISION, SO I'LL HAVE TO MAKE A HURRIED SEARCH. THIS METAL BAR AROUND MY HEAD SHOULD HELP!
AND AS SUPERBOY COURSES THROUGH THE MYRIAD CAVERNS AT SUPER-SPEED...
THE FRICTION OF AIR AGAINST THE METAL BAND HEATS UP THE BAND AND MAKES IT GLOW LIKE A SEARCHLIGHT! BUT THERE'S STILL NO SIGN OF THE PIRATES!
SHORTLY AFTER...
THEY'RE NOT IN HERE... I CAN VOUCH FOR THAT!
I GUESS SO... BUT YOU CERTAINLY LOST A LOT OF VALUABLE TIME! WHY DIDN'T YOU SIMPLY USE YOUR X-RAY VISION?
WHY, I... ER... IT ...ER.. DIDN'T OCCUR TO ME!
I CAN'T TELL HIM THAT I'M NOT REALLY MARSBOY--AND THAT MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE LEAD AS MARSBOY'S CAN!
HMMM... GUESS YOU NEED A REST, MARSBOY! WE'LL TRY TO CATCH UP WITH THOSE PIRATES WITHOUT YOUR... ER... HELP!

GOSH, THEIR OPINION OF MARSBOY IS CHANGING MIGHTY FAST.' I'D BETTER SWITCH TO HIS SECRET IDENTITY BEFORE I BUNGLE THINGS SOME MORE.'
WATCH OUT, SUPERBOY.' YOU'RE ABOUT TO COMMIT THE BIGGEST BONER OF ALL.'

WHILE BACK ON EARTH...
THAT ROCK-SLIDE... IT'S HOLDING UP TRAFFIC.' I'D BETTER CLEAR IT UP BEFORE THERE'S AN ACCIDENT.'

I'LL USE THIS ROCK TO SMASH THE OTHERS INTO HARMLESS DUST.' THAT'LL BE THE QUICKEST WAY.'
S-SUPERBOY.' STOP.' Y-YOU'LL KILL US ALL.'

I'M CARRYING HIGH EXPLOSIVES.' IF YOU HAD SMASHED THAT ROCK, THE VIBRATIONS COULD HAVE SET THEM OFF AND BLOWN UP HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE.' WHY DIDN'T YOU USE YOUR X-RAY VISION AND LOOK THROUGH THE WALLS OF MY TRUCK?
WHY...I...ER.. I DIDN'T THINK OF IT.'
EXPLOSIVE
HANDLE WITH CARE
HIGH

GULP! THOSE WALLS ARE MADE OF COPPER-- THE ONE METAL WHICH MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE.'
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S COMING OVER SUPERBOY.' HE SURE IS ACTING STRANGELY TODAY.'

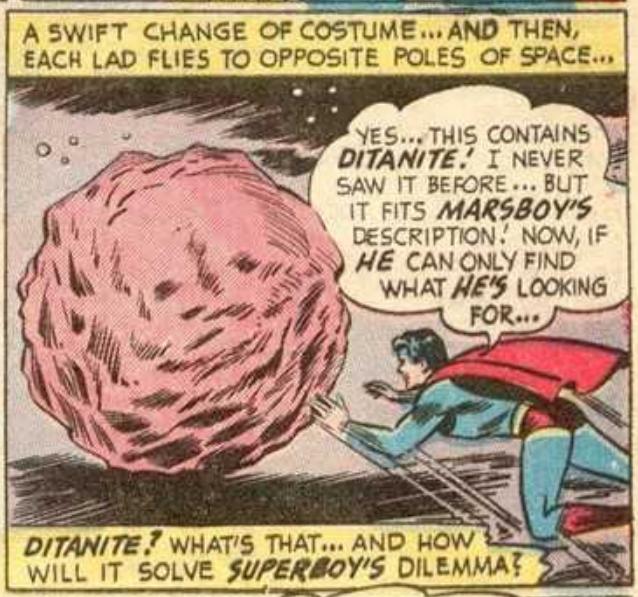
LATER, WHEN MARSBOY IS ALONE...
I'D BETTER CHANGE TO CLARK KENT BEFORE I MAKE THINGS EVEN WORSE FOR SUPERBOY.'
BUT STRANGELY ENOUGH, THIS IS GOING TO MAKE THE MOST TROUBLE OF ALL FOR SUPERBOY.'

AND ON MARS, WHERE EVENTS HAVE FORCED SUPERBOY TO MAKE THE SAME DECISION...
AT LEAST NO ONE SAW ME CHANGE, SO... WHAT? WH-WHO SAID THAT?
HMMM... VERY INTERESTING.' SUTRI IS REALLY MARSBOY.'
A... A TALKING DOG.' NOW I'VE REALLY FIXED THINGS FOR MARSBOY.' I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF THIS... BETTER GO TO EARTH AND TELL HIM THE WHOLE STORY.' HE'S RIGHT... IT IS MORE DIFFICULT HERE.'
I'LL BE THE MOST FAMOUS PARA-PUPPY ON MARS WHEN I TELL WHAT I KNOW.'
MEANWHILE, ON EARTH, WHERE "CLARK KENT" PLAYS BALL WITH HIS FRIENDS...
GET THE BALL, CLARK.' DON'T LOSE IT IN THE SUN.'
HMMM... I DON'T UNDERSTAND CLARK... HE'S BEEN ACTING SO STRANGELY THESE PAST FEW HOURS.'
WATCH OUT, MARSBOY.' THAT INQUISITIVE LITTLE LASS IS LANA LANG, THE GIRL WHO SUSPECTS THAT CLARK KENT IS SUPERBOY.'
AND AS "CLARK" CHASES THE FLY BALL INTO THE SURROUNDING WOODS...
OH, OH... THAT SHRUB... MY MICROSCOPIC VISION REVEALS TINY DROPS OF MOISTURE ON ITS LEAVES.' MEANS ONLY ONE THING...
HEY, FELLOWS... WE'D BETTER STOP.' THERE'S GOING TO BE A TERRIFIC ELECTRICAL STORM IN A FEW MINUTES.'
STORM? HA, HA... QUIT KIDDING AROUND, CLARK.' WHY, THERE ISN'T A CLOUD IN THE SKY.'
BUT A FEW MINUTES LATER...
CRACK!
WHEW.' LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.' CLARK WAS RIGHT.'
YES... AND NOW I KNOW HE'S SUPERBOY.' HOW ELSE COULD HE HAVE SEEN THIS STORM COMING -- EXCEPT WITH TELESCOPIC VISION?
SAY -- LANA'S RIGHT.' THAT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION.'
GOSH -- HOW WAS I TO KNOW THEY HADN'T PERFECTED THE XN THEORY OF WEATHER CASTING? IT... IT'S SO ELEMENTARY.' I'D BETTER GET SUPERBOY, AND SEE IF HE CAN SQUIRM OUT OF THIS.'
10

SECONDS LATER, IN MIDSPACE...
SUPERBOY.' I--I JUST SAW YOU LEAVING MARS.' DON'T BLAME YOU... AFTER THE MESS I GOT YOU INTO ON EARTH.'
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DID, MARSBOY--BUT I'VE GOTTEN YOU INTO EVEN WORSE TROUBLE ON MARS.'

SO, THE TWO SUPER LADS ONCE AGAIN EXCHANGE COSTUMES, AND...
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRIED THIS... I...I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PROVE I'M NOT SUTRI NOW.'
IT'S NOT ONLY A QUESTION OF OUR SECRET IDENTITIES.' NO ONE WILL EVER HAVE THE SAME RESPECT FOR US AFTER THIS.' IF WE COULD ONLY THINK OF SOMETHING...

WE COULD TELL THEM ABOUT OUR WAGER... BUT THEY MIGHT NOT BELIEVE IT.' IT WOULD SOUND TOO MUCH LIKE AN ALIBI.'
WAIT.' I HAVE AN IDEA.' IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHETHER WE'RE ALIKE... YET DIFFERENT IN ONE IMPORTANT WAY.'


A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME... AND THEN, EACH LAD FLIES TO OPPOSITE POLES OF SPACE...
YES... THIS CONTAINS DITANITE.' I NEVER SAW IT BEFORE... BUT IT FITS MARSBOY'S DESCRIPTION.' NOW, IF HE CAN ONLY FIND WHAT HE'S LOOKING FOR...
DITANITE.? WHAT'S THAT... AND HOW WILL IT SOLVE SUPERBOY'S DILEMMA?

MOMENTS LATER, ON EARTH...
LOOK.' THAT ASTEROID... SMASHING TOWARD EARTH.' AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR US, PROFESSOR WRIGHT.'
YES--IT'LL LAND ABOUT A MILE FROM HERE. LET'S HURRY.'
GOOD FOR MARSBOY.' THIS SHOULD EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.'

WHY, THIS ASTEROID CONTAINS KRYPTONITE, THE ELEMENT THAT'S HARMLESS TO EVERYONE EXCEPT SUPERBOY.' WE MUST WARN HIM AT ONCE.'
11

AND WHEN WORD GETS ABOUT...
NO WONDER YOU ACTED SO STRANGELY.' YOUR POWERS WERE AFFECTED AS THAT ASTEROID APPROACHED SMALLVILLE.'
YES, I KNEW I'D BE POWERLESS.' THAT'S WHY I TOLD CLARK TO WARN THE KIDS THAT THE PLACE THEY WERE PLAYING IN, WOULD BE THE CENTER OF A TERRIFIC ELECTRICAL STORM.'

WHILE ON MARS, A SIMILAR "PHENOMENON" HAS JUST OCCURRED...
NO WONDER YOU ACTED SO STRANGELY... AFFECTED BY THE DITANITE IN THE ASTEROID WHICH WAS RAPIDLY APPROACHING US!
YES... I KNEW IT WAS COMING... AND I KNEW THAT IF IT AFFECTED ME WHILE I WAS IN MY REAL SECRET IDENTITY...

... IT WOULD REVEAL THAT I WAS MARSBOY.' SO I TOOK THE IDENTITY OF SUTRI, FIGURING THAT IF I WAS RENDERED HELPLESS BY DITANITE, PEOPLE WOULD THINK SUTRI WAS MARSBOY.'
HMPH.' AND I THOUGHT I HAD DISCOVERED THE GREAT SECRET.' WELL... SUCH IS LIFE.'

SO, ACROSS SPACE, A NEW AND STRONGER BOND EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER FRIENDS...
HOME IS BEST AFTER ALL.' I DON'T ENVY SUPERBOY... HIS TASK IS MORE DIFFICULT.'

AND ON EARTH, SUPERBOY RESUMES HIS JOB OF HELPING PEOPLE...
I'D NEVER TELL MARSBOY... BUT NOW I KNOW... HIS JOB IS HARDER THAN MINE.'
12

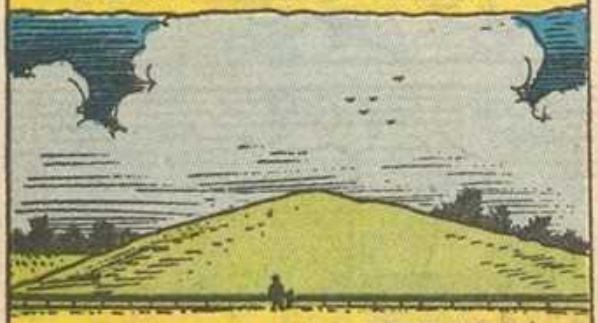
YOU'VE HAD A TRYING TIME TODAY, SUPERBOY.' HOW ABOUT COMING TO KIDTOWN CAMP FOR A REAL VACATION?
WH-WHAT? ER... NO, THANKS... I... ER... I'M TOO TIRED FOR ANOTHER VACATION.'
THE END

JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DRIVE OUT IN THE COUNTRY, JERRY!
BUT ALL THAT AIR GAVE ME AN APPETITE. I COULD EAT SOMETHING!
NO SOONER SAID, JANE!
SCREECH
Café Louis
OH, JERRY - THIS PLACE? I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF COMING HERE!
HAMBURGER
GIANT SIZE 15¢
NO! THERE'S A SWELL HAMBURG JOINT AROUND THE CORNER!
Café Louis
THE END.

"GOODBYE GOO!" SAYS BERT PARKS
TV STAR OF "BREAK THE BANK"
IT'S HERE! THE NEW CREAM HAIR OIL THAT'S NOT STICKY OR GREASY! GROOMS HAIR ALL DAY LONG!
DIFFERENT BECAUSE IT'S LIGHT-BODIED.
EASIER TO CLEAN! NO STICKY HANDS, HAIR OR COMB! WASHES OFF IN PLAIN WATER!
HOMOGENIZED FOR EASY FLOW. IN HANDY SHAKER-TOP BOTTLE
MONEY BACK
if you don't agree it's the finest liquid cream tonic ever!
NEW!
VITALIS Hair CREAM
—by Bristol-Myers, makers of famous Vitalis
SAVE MONEY! 49¢ SIZE EQUALS LEADING 89¢ SIZE CREAM OIL!

QUICK QUIZ

ARE THERE ANY HILLS IN THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS?



NO! BUT, THERE IS AN ARTIFICIALLY BUILT HILL IN A LOCAL PARK TO SHOW CHILDREN WHAT A HILL LOOKS LIKE!

DOES A NICKEL CONTAIN MORE NICKEL THAN COPPER?

NO! A NICKEL CONSISTS OF 75% COPPER..... 25% NICKEL!

WHO ARE THE MOST INVENTIVE PEOPLE ON EARTH?

THE SWISS! THEY AVERAGE 940 INVENTIONS ANNUALLY FOR EACH MILLION PERSONS!

WHICH HAS LARGER AND STRONGER HORNS..... A BULL OR A COW?

A COW'S HORNS ARE MUCH LARGER AND STRONGER! J.H. ELMO

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